

THE
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF
GREAT HARWOOD.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health,

J. PATCHETT, L.R.C.P.Ed., L.F.P. & S.G.

— 1905. —

J. T. Tomlinson, Printer, Great Harwood.

GREAT HARWOOD,

FEBRUARY 20TH, 1906.

To the Chairman and Members of the Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour of submitting to your notice my annual report of the sanitary condition of your district together with the returns of births and deaths for the year ending December 31st, 1905, also Forms I., III., IV., V., as required by the Local Government Board.

During the year 297 births have been registered, of whom 178 were boys and 119 were girls. Estimating the population at 13,000 this gives a yearly birthrate of 22.8 per thousand of the inhabitants. The birthrate for 1904 was 22.5 per thousand, and for the ten previous years 26.9 per thousand.

During the same period the deaths numbered 161, of whom 89 were males and 72 were females. This is an annual deathrate of 12.4 per thousand of the population. Eleven of these deaths occurred in institutions outside your district, leaving 150 deaths or 11.5 per thousand actually occurring in Great Harwood. The deathrate for 1904 was 14.6 per thousand, and for the ten previous years 14.3 per thousand.

The ages at which death occurred were:—

Under 1 year of age	...	...	...	49
Between 1 and 5 years of age	...	...	...	8
,, 5 ,, 15	,,	,,	,,	8
,, 15 ,, 25	,,	,,	,,	11
,, 25 ,, 45	,,	,,	,,	17
,, 45 ,, 65	,,	,,	,,	36
,, Over 65	,,	,,	,,	32
Total...				161

The deathrate of infants under one year of age has been 165 per thousand of births registered against 167.8 per thousand births registered in 1904.

The mortality of children under five years of age was 57 or 4.4 per thousand against 73 deaths or 5.6 per thousand in 1904 of the population.

Sixteen deaths are returned as due to Premature Birth, against eight in 1904 and seven in 1903, although the birthrate has fallen from 25.8 in 1903 to 22.8 in 1905. This I have no doubt is principally due to the fact that pregnant women continue to work at the mills longer than they ought to do, and if this state of things could be remedied, I think it would make a great improvement in the infantile mortality.

The Registrar General states from the census returns that as many as 41.7 per cent. of the married women of Great Harwood are employed in the mills.

Eighteen persons have died over 70 years of age, three of whom had reached to the advanced age of 83 years, and three the age of 84 years each.

The causes of death were :—

Bronchitis and Pneumonia	27	Enteritis	...	...	...	...	4
Phthisis and other		Accidents	...	...	...	...	4
Tubercular diseases	12	Convulsions	...	...	...	...	4
Premature birth	16	Bright's disease	...	...	...	...	4
Heart disease	9	Diseases and Accidents of					
Diarrhoea	8	Parturition	...				3
Various Cancerous diseases	7	Hemiplegia and General					
Marasmus	9	Paralysis	...				3
Influenza and its complications	5	Rheumatism	...	...	...	...	3
Apoplexy	5	Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	2
Epilepsy	5	Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	2
Meningitis	6	Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	...	...	2
Senile decay	7	Cerebral Softening	...	...	...	...	3
Other causes not necessary to particularise							11
Total	..						161

During the year the following cases of Zymotic Disease have been notified, viz. :—

92	cases of Scarlet Fever.
15	„ Erysipelas.
14	„ Enteric Fever.
1	„ Continued Fever.
3	„ Puerperal Fever.
1	„ Diphtheria.
1	„ Membranous Croup.

—
Total 127 cases.

In the year 1904 the number of cases was 108.

Two deaths have resulted from Scarlet Fever and two from Puerperal Fever.

The deathrate from the principal Zymotic diseases number 10, a deathrate of '77 per thousand, against a deathrate of 1·9 per thousand in 1904, and of 1·3 per thousand in 1903.

You will have observed that 92 cases of Scarlet Fever have been notified during the year. These cases have occurred in various parts of your district and more or less throughout the year, but principally during the last three months, and I am of opinion they are a continuation of the epidemic which has prevailed during the past two years.

In all cases of Scarlet Fever disinfectants have been supplied by your Council with printed instructions for their use, and the proper isolation of the patient.

Your Officials have also carried out in every case where this disease has existed a thorough system of fumigation and disinfection of the premises on the convalescence of the patient. In fact I think everything possible has been done in the absence of an Infectious Hospital to prevent its spread.

The 14 cases of Enteric Fever resulted in no death.

Each house where the disease occurred has been inspected.

All discovered defects have been remedied and the patient isolated as far as possible.

Your Officials have attended daily and removed all excreta in hermetically sealed buckets, and the excreta has been disinfected and buried.

In every case of Zymotic disease every possible precaution has been taken to prevent its spread.

On December 6th, 1905, Bessie Haworth, aged 9 years, was notified as suffering from Scarlet Fever. Knowing that her father, Dennis Haworth, was a farmer and retailed milk in the district, I, accompanied by Mr. A. Eddleston, Nuisance Inspector, made a visit to the farmstead. The house, shippsons and surroundings generally were clean and in a fairly good condition.

Mrs. Haworth, who had been confined a short time previously, was in bed in the kitchen or living room downstairs.

The Fever patient occupied a room in the upper storey.

I gave particular instructions to Mr. Haworth for the isolation of the patient, and told him if he continued to distribute milk or had anything to do whatever with milking the cows or handling the milk vessels he must not on any consideration visit the infected chamber.

Mr. Haworth promised to carry out all my instructions and to obtain a suitable person to nurse the girl so that the person who washed the milk vessels would not be brought in contact with the Fever patient.

On December 17th, another child, Stanley Haworth, aged $3\frac{1}{2}$ years, was notified as suffering from the same illness, and on Monday, December 18th, I heard of his death.

On December 19th we again visited the place and found that the child had actually died in the same bed that his mother had previously occupied in the kitchen or living room.

At the same time Mr. Haworth and a lad also employed in milking and distributing milk in the district were practically living in the same room, although Mr. Haworth had been told he must not mix with the fever patients so long as he assisted in the milking or distribution of milk.

The girl who was first notified was also in the kitchen not yet through the stage of desquamation, as I found the skin peeling from her hands and feet and enlarged glands in her neck.

This I considered a very serious matter as Scarlet Fever is such an infectious disease and can so easily be spread, that I thought it my duty to make a special report to your Council for you to consider what should be done to prevent such conduct recurring.

Your Council passed a resolution that Mr. Haworth was to be summoned before the Blackburn County Bench of Magistrates, which was done and a fine inflicted.

The Schools in your District have been visited during the year and although many minor defects have been remedied since my last report, there still requires better attention to the closets, as most of them are not kept so clean as they might be. The yard at St. John's School is still in the same condition as when I last reported it. It is very uneven and I think ought to be levelled, and if not flagged or paved I think a coating of fine ashes or gravel would be a great improvement to it.

The yards at the National Boys' New School and the Barn Meadow Lane Council School are also very dirty, and I think a covering of ashes or gravel would considerably improve them if it is not convenient to have them flagged or paved.

The Mills have also been visited during the year and instructions given to the Managers as to the cleansing, disinfecting, and frequent flushing of the urinals and closets.

The Workshops are much in the same condition as before. The Bootmaking Department at the Co-operative Stores is low, not very well lighted, and requires better ventilation as well as more frequent lime-washing.

The Workshops generally in the town want to be more frequently lime-washed and some of them better ventilated. Wherever these defects exist they have been pointed out to the Owners, and I think they will be remedied.

The Slaughter-houses (two in number) viz.: the public one belonging to your Council, and the one belonging to the Co-operative Society, are of recent construction and in a very satisfactory condition.

The Tripe Boiling Works are not kept so clean as they might be and I think more frequent lime-washing is necessary.

A closet is also required for the use of the men who are employed at the works.

There are a few small bakehouses in the town, and one large one belonging to the Co-operative Society which is a very good and suitable building with every convenience and kept fairly clean.

I should like to suggest that a Lavatory should be provided near to the W.C. in the Co-operative Society's Bakehouse and that they should keep a supply of soap and towels for the use of the workmen.

There is only one registered Lodging-house in your District (for men only) and it appears to be conducted in a respectable manner, but might be kept somewhat cleaner.

The Markets have been regularly visited, but as no food of an unwholesome nature has been found exposed for sale no action has been necessary.

A passage behind the houses numbered 105 to 121 Queen Street would be considerably improved if it was paved.

The Scavenging has been again successfully carried out by your Officials. The streets have been kept clean and in a fairly good condition.

A number of new Cottages have been erected during the year, also a new Cotton Weaving Mill and several others enlarged thus providing employment for several hundred persons.

Great Harwood is a manufacturing district situated in North-East Lancashire, and its position on the southern slope of a hill shelters it from the north wind, but it is somewhat exposed to the east and west winds which frequently prevail during the Spring and Autumn. It contains 2,863 statute acres, and the Dean Clough Reservoir belonging to the Accrington District Gas and Water Board is within its boundaries and from which source it receives its water supply.

In conclusion I again congratulate your Council on the very highly satisfactory sanitary condition of your district.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN PATCHETT,

Medical Officer of Health.

TABLE I.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1905 and previous Years.

Name of District Great Harwood

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.						TOTAL DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IN THE DISTRICT.	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	NETT DEATHS AT ALL AGES BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.				
				Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.											
		Number.	Rate.*	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births registered.	Number.	Rate.*	Number.	Rate.*				Number.	Rate.*			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13					
1895.	10,500	318	30.3	37	116.3	155	14.8				155	14.8					
1896.	10,500	290	27.6	47	162	171	16.2				171	16.2					
1897.	11,500	321	28	45	140	156	13.6				156	13.6					
1898.	12,000	336	28	59	175.7	186	15.5				186	15.5					
1899.	12,000	330	27.5	40	121.2	151	12.6				151	12.6					
1900.	12,000	342	28.5	50	146.2	163	13.6				163	13.6					
1901.	12,000	310	25.8	53	170.9	197	16.4				197	16.4					
1902.	12,250	310	25.3	50	161.3	166	13.5				166	13.5					
1903.	12,500	323	25.8	32	99	148	11.8				10	15.8	12.6				
1904.	13,000	292	22.5	49	167.8	180	13.8				10	190	14.6				
Averages for years 1895-1904.	11,825	317.2	26.9	46.2	146	167.3	14.18				2	169.3	14.3				
1905.	13,000 13,500	297	22.8	49	165	150	11.5 11.1				11	161	12.4 11.9				

* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

NOTE.—The deaths to be included in Column 7 of this Table are the whole of those registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district or division. The deaths to be included in Column 12 are the number in Column 7, corrected by the subtraction of the number in Column 10 and the addition of the number in Column 11.

By the term "Non-residents" is meant persons brought into the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and dying in public institutions there; and by the term "Residents" is meant persons who have been taken out of the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and have died in public institutions elsewhere.

The "Public institutions" to be taken into account for the purposes of these Tables are those into which persons are habitually received on account of sickness or infirmity, such as hospitals, workhouses and lunatic asylums. A list of the Institutions in respect of the deaths in which corrections have been made should be given on the back of this Table.

Total population at all ages 12,014Number of inhabited houses 2620Average number of persons per house 4.6Area of District in acres
(exclusive of area covered by water) 2818

A' Census of 1901.

M. 190.

[SEE OVER.]

I.	II.	III.
Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District.	Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District.	Other Institutions, the deaths in which have been distributed among the several localities in the District.
<p>Occasionally patients go to the Blackburn Royal East Lancashire Infirmary or to Blackburn Workhouse Infirmary</p>		
<p>Is the Union Workhouse within the District? <u>No</u></p>		

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1905.
Name of District Great Harwood

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	At all Ages.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.					TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY.							NO. OF CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL FROM EACH LOCALITY.
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and upwards.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Small-pox												
Cholera												
Diphtheria	1											
Membranous croup	...	1												
Erysipelas	...	15						1	2	11	1			
Scarlet fever	...	92	3							3				
Typhus fever	...													
Enteric fever	...	14												
Relapsing fever	...													
Continued fever	...		1											
Puerperal fever	...			3										
Plague	...													
*														
Totals	...	127	3	38	57	4	24	1						

NOTES.—The localities adopted for this table should be the same as those in Tables II. and IV.

State in space below the name of the isolation hospital, if any, to which residents in the district, suffering from infectious disease, are usually sent. Mark (H) the locality in which it is situated, or if not within the district, state where it is situated, and in what district. The name of the authority by whom the hospital is provided should also be given. Mark (W) the locality in which a workhouse is situated.

□ * This space may be used for record of other disease (compulsory or voluntary) of which is in force in the district.

† These age columns for notifications should be filled up in all cases where the Medical Officer of Health, by inquiry or otherwise, has obtained the necessary information.

Isolation Hospital

M. 192.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1905.

Name of District Great Harwood

(See Notes at Back.)

CAUSES OF DEATH. 1	DEATHS AT THE SUBJOINED AGES OF "RESIDENTS" WHETHER OCCURRING IN OR BEYOND THE DISTRICT.								DEATHS AT ALL AGES OF "RESIDENTS" BELONGING TO LOCALITIES, WHETHER OCCURRING IN OR BEYOND THE DISTRICT.								TOTAL DEATHS WHETHER OF RESIDENTS OR NON "RESIDENTS" IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IN THE DISTRICT. 16
	All ages. 2	Under 1 year. 3	1 and under 5. 4	5 and under 15. 5	15 and under 25. 6	25 and under 65. 7	65 and upwards. 8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15			
Small-pox																	
Measles																	
Scarlet fever	2	1	1														
Whooping-cough ...																	
Diphtheria and membranous croup ...																	
Croup																	
Typhus ...																	
Fever { Enteric ...																	
Other continued																	
Epidemic influenza ...	5					2		2		1							
Cholera																	
Plague ...																	
Diarrhoea. (See notes at back.)	18	5	2														
Enteritis. (See notes at back.)	4	2						1		1							
Puerperal fever. (See notes at back.)	2					1		1									
Erysipelas																	
Other septic diseases...																	
Phthisis, (Pulmonary Tuberculosis.)	6	2						2		2							
Other tubercular diseases.	5	2	1		2			2		2							
Cancer, malignant disease. (See notes at back.)	7									6		1					
Bronchitis	13	1	1						4		7						
Pneumonia	14	1	1					1	9	2							
Pleurisy																	
Other diseases of Respiratory organs.																	
Alcoholism } Cirrhosis of liver }	2							2									
Venereal diseases ...	1								1								
Premature birth ...	16	16															
Diseases and accidents of parturition.	3	2							1								
Heart diseases ...	9	1				2		3		3							
Accidents	4			1				1		2							
Suicides	1									1							
All other causes ...	60	14	3	5	5	18	12										
All causes	161	49	8	8	11	53	32										

NOTES.—(a) In this Table all deaths of "Residents" occurring in public institutions, whether within or without the district, are to be *included* with the other deaths in the columns for the several age groups (columns 2-8). They are also, in columns 9-15, to be *included* among the deaths in their respective "Localities" according to the previous addresses of the deceased as given by the Registrars. Deaths of "Non-residents" occurring in public institutions in the district are in like manner to be *excluded* from columns 2-8 and 9-15 of this Table.

(b) See notes on Table I. as to the meaning of "Residents" and "Non-residents," and as to the "Public Institutions" to be taken into account for the purposes of these Tables. The "Localities" should be the same as those in Tables II. and III.

(c) All deaths occurring in public institutions situated within the district, whether of "Residents" or of "Non-residents," are, in addition to being dealt with as in note (a), to be entered in the last column of this Table. The total number in this column should equal the figures for the year in column 9, Table I.

(d) The total deaths in the several "Localities" in columns 9-15 of this Table should equal those for the year in the same localities in Table II., sub-columns c. The total deaths at all ages in column 2 of this Table should equal the gross total of columns 9-15, and the figures for the year in column 12 of Table I.

(e) Under the heading of "Diarrhœa" are to be included deaths certified as from diarrhœa, alone or in combination with some other cause of ill-defined nature; and also deaths certified as from

Epidemic enteritis;
Zymotic enteritis;
Epidemic diarrhœa. Summer diarrhœa;
Dysentery and dysenteric diarrhœa;
Choleraic diarrhœa, cholera, cholera nostras
(in the absence of Asiatic cholera).

Under the heading of "Enteritis" are to be included those certified as from Gastro-enteritis, Muco-enteritis, and Gastric catarrh, unless from information obtained by enquiry from the certifying practitioner or otherwise, the Medical Officer of Health should have reason for including such deaths, especially those of infants, under the specific term "Diarrhœa." Deaths from diarrhœa secondary to some other well-defined disease should be included under the latter.

Under the headings of "Cancer" and "Puerperal fever" should be included all registered deaths from causes comprised within these general terms.

In recording the facts under the various headings of Tables I., II., III. and IV., attention has been given to the notes on the Tables.

John Patchett Medical Officer of Health.

Date *French* 1906.

Table V.

V.

District
Borough of

Great Harwood Urban Sanitary District.

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1905.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year.	
All Causes.																		
Common Infectious Diseases																		
Small-pox																
Chicken-pox																
Measles																
Scarlet Fever	...																	
Diphtheria: Croup	...																	
Whooping Cough	...																	
Diarrhoeal Diseases.																		
Diarrhoea, all forms	...																	
Enteritis (not Tuberculous)	...																	
Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh	...																	
Wasting Diseases.																		
Premature Birth	...	15																
Congenital Defects	...	10	10															
Injury at Birth	...	10	10															
Want of Breast-milk	...			2	2													
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus	...			2	2	4	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	16
Tuberculous Diseases.																		
Tuberculous Meningitis	...																	
Tuberculous Peritonitis; Tabes Mesenterica	...																	
Other Tuberculous Diseases	...																	
Erysipelas	...																	
Syphilis	...																	
Rickets	...																	
Meningitis (not Tuberculous)	...																	
Convulsions	...	2																
Bronchitis	...																	
Laryngitis	...																	
Pneumonia	...																	
Suffocation, overlaying	...		1															
Other Causes	...																	
	22	1	3	2	28	3	4	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	49

District (or sub-division) of Great Harwood

Population.

Estimated to middle of 1905.

Births in the year { legitimate 289
illegitimate 8

13,000

Deaths from all Causes at all Ages 161

This Table is enclosed, by request of the Secretary of State, for the guidance and convenience of Medical Officers of Health in preparing that part of their Annual Report which relates to factories, workshops, workplaces and home work. It is not intended to supersede the fuller statement which is desirable in the text of the Report, but to provide for uniformity in the presentation of such particulars as lend themselves to statistical treatment.

Further copies can be supplied on application to the Chief Inspector of Factories, Home Office, London, S.W.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1905

for the* Urban District of Great Harwood

on the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, in connection with

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, LAUNDRIES, WORKPLACES AND HOMEWORK.

1.—INSPECTION.

INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS OR INSPECTORS OF NUISANCES.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories (Including Factory Laundries.)	39	3	Nil
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries.)	38	6	Nil
Workplaces	Nil		
Homeworkers' Premises	Nil		
Total	74	9	

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects			Number of Prosecutions.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—*				
Want of cleanliness	Nil			
Want of ventilation	Nil			
Overcrowding	Nil			
Want of drainage of floors	Nil			
Other nuisances				
† Sanitary accommodation { insufficient				
{ unsuitable or defective	Nil			
{ not separate for sexes				
Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act :—				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 101)	Nil			
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses (ss. 97 to 100).				
Failure as regards lists of outworkers (s. 107)				
Giving out work to be done in { unwholesome (s. 108) ...				
{ premises which are infected (s. 110)				
Allowing wearing apparel to be made in premises infected by scarlet fever or smallpox (s. 109).	Nil			
Other offences	Nil			
Total				

* Including those specified in sections 2, 3, 7 and 8, of the Factory Act as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

† For districts not in London, state here whether section 22 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, has been adopted by the District Council; and if so what standard of sufficiency and suitability of sanitary accommodation for persons employed in factories and workshops has been enforced.

3.—OTHER MATTERS.

Class.	Number.
Matters notified to H.M. Inspectors of Factories:—	nil
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 133)	
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspectors as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory Act (s. 5) ...	Notified by H.M. Inspectors Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspectors.
Other	
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101):—	
Certificates granted during the year	
In use at the end of the year	
Homework:—	Number of
<i>Lists of Outworkers*</i> (s. 107):—	Lists. Outworkers.
Lists received	
Addresses of outworkers ...	forwarded to other Authorities received from other Authorities
Homework in unwholesome or infected premises:—	Wearing Apparel; Other.
Notices prohibiting homework in unwholesome premises (s. 108)	—
Cases of infectious disease notified in homeworkers' premises	—
Orders prohibiting homework in infected premises (s. 110)	—
Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year	
Important classes of workshops, such as workshop bakehouses, may be enumerated here. {	
Total number of workshops on Register ...	38

Date March

1906

(Signature) *John Patchett*

Medical Officer of Health.

* The Lists should be received twice in the year. The year's figures required in the Table are those obtained by adding together the two half-yearly totals.

NOTE.—The Factory and Workshop Act, 1901 (s. 132), requires the Medical Officer of Health in his Annual Report to the District Council to report specifically on the administration of that Act in workshops and workplaces, and to send a copy of his Annual Report, or so much of it as deals with this subject, to the Secretary of State (Home Office). If the Annual Report is presented otherwise than in print, it is unnecessary to include in the copy sent to the Home Office the portions which do not relate to factories, workshops, laundries, workplaces or homework. The duties of Local Authorities and the Medical Officer of Health under the Act of 1901 are detailed in the Home Office Memorandum of December, 1904.